UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

V.

Criminal Action
No. 13-10200-GAO

DZHOKHAR A. TSARNAEV, also
known as Jahar Tsarni,

Defendant.

BEFORE THE HONORABLE GEORGE A. O'TOOLE, JR. UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

## LOBBY CONFERENCE - SEALED

John J. Moakley United States Courthouse
Courtroom No. 9
One Courthouse Way
Boston, Massachusetts 02210
Monday, March 2, 2015
2:40 p.m.

Marcia G. Patrisso, RMR, CRR
Official Court Reporter
John J. Moakley U.S. Courthouse
One Courthouse Way, Room 3510
Boston, Massachusetts 02210
(617) 737-8728

Mechanical Steno - Computer-Aided Transcript

```
1
     APPEARANCES:
          OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
 2
          By: William D. Weinreb, Aloke Chakravarty and
 3
              Nadine Pellegrini, Assistant U.S. Attorneys
          John Joseph Moakley Federal Courthouse
          Suite 9200
 4
          Boston, Massachusetts 02210
 5
          - and -
          UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 6
          By: Steven D. Mellin, Assistant U.S. Attorney
          Capital Case Section
 7
          1331 F Street, N.W.
          Washington, D.C. 20530
 8
          On Behalf of the Government
          FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE
 9
          By: Miriam Conrad, William W. Fick and Timothy G. Watkins,
10
              Federal Public Defenders
          51 Sleeper Street
          Fifth Floor
11
          Boston, Massachusetts 02210
          - and -
12
          CLARKE & RICE, APC
13
          By: Judy Clarke, Esq.
          1010 Second Avenue
14
          Suite 1800
          San Diego, California
15
          - and -
          LAW OFFICE OF DAVID I. BRUCK
16
          By: David I. Bruck, Esq.
          220 Sydney Lewis Hall
          Lexington, Virginia 24450
17
          On Behalf of the Defendant
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

## 1 PROCEEDINGS 2 THE CLERK: All rise. 3 (The Court enters the courtroom at 2:40 p.m.) THE CLERK: The United States District Court for the 4 5 District of Massachusetts. Court is in session. Please be seated. For a motion hearing in the case of United States v. 7 Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 13-10200. 8 Will counsel identify yourselves for the record, please. 00:10 10 MR. WEINREB: Good afternoon, your Honor. William 11 Weinreb for the United States. 12 MR. CHAKRAVARTY: As well as Aloke Chakravarty, your 13 Honor. MS. PELLEGRINI: Good afternoon, your Honor. Nadine 14 15 Pellegrini. 16 MR. MELLIN: Steve Mellin. MR. BRUCK: Good afternoon, your Honor. David Bruck, 17 Miriam Conrad, Judy Clarke, Tim Watkins and Bill Fick for the 18 19 defendant. 00:11 20 THE COURT: You did that without looking. 21 (Laughter.) 22 THE COURT: I gather the defendant has elected not to be present? 23 24 MR. BRUCK: That's correct. 25 THE COURT: Okay. I thought we'd start -- Jim

00:12 20

00:11 10

McAlear's here -- and talk a little bit just about the mechanics of the exercise peremptories. Let me just say I'm still reading materials about motions to remove from the qualified list people. I expect to have that first thing in the morning for you. There are still some transcripts I want to read. So I think you'll know first thing in the morning, so you may have to plan accordingly, but I'm sure you will.

I'm inclined with what the government has suggested as a method of approaching the entire panel of, in the first instance, 52 and then 12. And my principal reason for that is I think it maximizes for both sides the utility of the peremptory challenges. It makes it more likely that more peremptories will be used than if we proceeded in the other way. And I think that's consistent with what I think is the clear purpose of the extra peremptories in the rule for death cases, that the parties have greater ability to excuse people by reason of peremptory. So I think that's what we'll do. Anybody in the panel is open to the strikes. And I think the suggestion of going two by two is fine.

I guess what I haven't resolved is how physically we do that. It's not -- it's literally not necessary to have the jurors here in the courtroom to do that. In another case, an ordinary case, we would be doing it at sidebar so neither the jurors nor the public would know which side was responsible for

00:14 20

00:13 10

which strikes, and I think that's important to maintain. So it is possible to do it entirely on paper, I guess.

I do have some sense that it should be a public proceeding, the public part, but not necessarily that the information should be public. In other words, it could be observed being done without -- but I'm not sure how to do that. So I invite any -- since it was the government's idea, maybe they should have some ideas about this.

MR. MELLIN: Your Honor, I guess if I can comment on that, the one way that I've seen this handled is that each side is exercising their strikes. The Court looks at the two and two. We submit those up to the Court, the Court looks at that, records the information, it comes back again to us to again exercise two and two, that information goes to the Court. At no time, though, is the Court excusing Juror 22 and 48 at that point in time; it's only at the end that the Court would then excuse the 40 jurors that had been stricken.

THE COURT: So on that, you'd hand them up and I'd review them for my own purposes but not announce them. Is that it?

MR. MELLIN: Correct.

THE COURT: And then they would all be announced en masse at the end: The following 40 jurors are excused?

MR. MELLIN: Yes.

MR. BRUCK: Sounds fine.

THE COURT: Are the bodies in the courtroom? 1 MR. MELLIN: I would suggest the bodies be in the 2 courtroom just so we all have a chance to look at the jurors 3 once again before we do this process. 4 5 THE COURT: Okay. 6 MR. MELLIN: Typically --7 THE COURT: We might use the box but there are different ways of doing it. The easiest way would simply to be 8 go in sequence and put the first 18 in even though that would 00:14 10 not actually have any alternates there. That would be the 11 difference from reality. In other words, they would all be part of the 52 rather than -- the first 52 rather than the 12 13 second 12. 14 MR. BRUCK: Well, of course, with back-striking it's quite arbitrary who's in the box and who's in the audience. 15 THE COURT: Right. It takes up fewer seats in the 16 audience so more people could be here. That's one thing. 17 18 MS. CLARKE: Judge, if you put them all in the 19 audience and the parties sit on this side of the table, they 00:15 20 can see the jurors and you're not straining around to figure 21 out who's there. If you need some room for the public, they 22 could enjoy the jury box. 23 THE COURT: I doubt we'd do that, but -- well, we have 24 74, I think, right? That's what we hope will show up. 25 MR. McALEAR: Yes, your Honor.

```
1
                   (Laughter.)
                  THE COURT: That reminds me. I should tell you that
     2
     3
         there is one that -- late last week a juror remembered a March
     4
         vacation that began today, and we told her to go.
     5
                  MS. CLARKE: And who is that?
     6
                  THE COURT: Do you remember the number offhand?
     7
                  MR. McALEAR: Yes. It's Juror No. 60.
     8
                  THE COURT: Yes. Juror No. 60. Okay. So she's
         flying south someplace, I imagine.
00:16 10
                  On that score, one juror was postponed for a similar
    11
         reason and we never actually got to him by the time we
         suspended. So that's Juror No. 647 who was effectively skipped
    12
    13
         over in the sequence. So if there's any problem with that, we
    14
         can address it. If the parties have no problem with the fact
    15
         that he would be skipped in the sequence and never reached.
                   (Counsel confer off the record.)
    16
                  MS. CLARKE: Did the Court plan on voir diring him?
    17
    18
                  THE COURT: That's an option. We can have him come in
    19
         tomorrow morning and do that. And I suppose if we went that
00:17 20
         course, then we could insert him in his sequence.
    21
                   (Counsel confer off the record.)
    22
                  THE COURT: If you want, I have his questionnaire
    23
         here, if anyone wants to look at it.
    24
                  MS. CLARKE: That would be great. May I approach?
    25
                  THE COURT: Sure. Paul?
```

```
1
                  MR. MELLIN: May I look on, your Honor?
                  THE COURT: Yes, of course. Of course.
     2
                   (Counsel confer off the record.)
     3
                  MR. BRUCK: We're content to just dismiss the juror.
     4
                  THE COURT: Yeah, I would just note he would be Number
     5
     6
         71 in our sequence. So it might be entirely moot, it might
     7
         not, but he would be up there.
     8
                  MR. MELLIN: I agree, your Honor.
     9
                  THE COURT: So both parties are content if we just
00:21 10
         skip over him, treat him as effectively excused?
    11
                  MR. MELLIN: Yes.
                  MR. BRUCK: Yes.
    12
    13
                              Okay. He's still -- he's still on the
                  THE COURT:
    14
         hook for his nightly phone call, so we'll release him.
    15
                  So we'll do as we discussed last week, I think 52 for
    16
         the jury proper and then the next -- so the question -- I don't
         know whether this will arise or not, but if it were to be the
    17
    18
         case that the total peremptories exercised actually were less
    19
         than 20 per side, we would slide the 12 down so that they would
00:21 20
         be -- they would match in sequence. In other words, if instead
    21
         of 40 being excused only 38 were, then it would have been -- 39
    22
         and 40 would become 1 and 2, basically, okay? And a similar
    23
         adjustment at the other end.
    24
                  MS. CLARKE: The alternate pool would begin where --
    25
                  THE COURT: The alternate pool would drop down to
```

```
1
         where the jury pool ended if you didn't use --
                  MR. BRUCK: Drop down or move up?
     2
     3
                  MS. CLARKE: It would move up, essentially.
     4
                   (Laughter.)
     5
                  MS. CLARKE: Try not to confuse us.
     6
                  MR. BRUCK: Do you mean no matter what the alternate
     7
         pool will begin at 53, or do you mean that it will slide up so
     8
         that the first -- the alternate selection -- if two
         peremptories went unused, then we would start at 51 with the
00:22 10
         alternates? Is that what the Court --
    11
                  MS. CLARKE: Yes, that's what I hear.
                  MR. BRUCK: -- meant to say?
    12
    13
                  THE COURT: If at the end of the jury proper
    14
         selection, instead of 52 jurors having been addressed, 12
    15
         remaining, 40 excused, only 50 had been, then the first
         alternate -- the alternate panel of 12 would begin at 51.
    16
                  MR. BRUCK: Gotcha. Okay.
    17
    18
                  THE COURT: I don't know whether that's up or down.
    19
                   (Laughter.)
00:23 20
                  THE COURT: All right.
                  MS. CLARKE: Judge, if I might on the question of the
    21
    22
         Court's rulings on the strikes that are pending, if the Court
    23
         makes a decision tonight late, is there some way to let us know
    24
         or do you think it won't be made until we're in the courtroom?
    25
                   THE COURT: I haven't thought that through. I don't
```

know.

00:24 10

00:25 20

MS. CLARKE: A tug on your left ear would mean granted.

THE COURT: Okay. When the jury has been selected, we have 18 people, they will get a little orientation now that they're really focused from Jim. That's customary. It will include the details about how their transportation will be arranged and what their days will be like, all very practical kinds of things. We've talked about that -- I'm not sure if we've talked recently about it, but I met with the marshals last week and things are in progress to have them assemble offsite, come into the building through the loading dock, basically, just so they can all come in at once. They'll come into the back of the house; they won't have to be exposed to victims, witnesses, participants and so on and so forth. They will have their lunches here.

It's acceptable to the marshals, and I have -- it was my suggestion that they be allowed the use of their electronic equipment during the lunch hour just for their convenience.

They will, of course, receive constant and strong reminders of how to use it or not use it, but I thought it would just relieve a little bit of the tension for them during the day if they had an opportunity at lunch to check in at the office or at home or whatever they might need to do.

After Jim is finished with that I would like to meet

```
informally with the jurors just to give them a bit of a pep
     1
     2
         talk. And I would prefer to do it by myself just for the
         environment. So if the parties would not object to that, I
     3
         would like consent to do that. If you want, we could put it on
     5
         the record. I would rather, again, be informal about it. I
         just want to encourage them now that they're really focused
     7
         that it's going to be them, that we expect the highest duty
         from them, so on, that kind of thing.
     8
                  MR. WEINREB: We have no objection, your Honor.
00:26 10
                  MR. BRUCK: This was on the record but --
    11
                  THE COURT: I was hoping to do it off the record
         but -- just because it made it less formal for them, but if
    12
    13
         they see a reporter sitting there...
    14
                  MR. BRUCK: I understand the Court's preference, but
         under the circumstances, I think we have to --
    15
                  THE COURT: Okay. All right. We'll hide her behind a
    16
    17
         screen.
    18
                  (Laughter.)
    19
                  THE COURT: It won't be long. It's just kind of a --
00:26 20
         partly courtesy, I think, and partly a personal touch kind of
    21
         thing, so.
    22
                  Okay. Are there any other juror-related --
    23
                  MS. CLARKE: There are, your Honor. We have filed a
    24
         motion to strike the panel.
    25
                  THE COURT: Oh, yeah. And so I was going to ask the
```

```
1
         government whether it intends to formally oppose that or not.
     2
                  MR. WEINREB: Your Honor, the government opposes the
                  We didn't plan on filing a written response unless the
     3
         Court would like one, but we would incorporate by reference the
     5
         responses that we made during the course of the voir dire and
         in the filings that were made in the Court of Appeals in
     7
         connection with this case, if that's acceptable to the Court.
     8
                  THE COURT: I don't have all -- well, maybe I do.
         Maybe I have them and I don't have them.
00:27 10
                  MR. WEINREB: They were served on the Court as a part
    11
         of the proceedings in the two mandamus --
    12
                  THE COURT: Are they on the docket?
    13
                  MR. WEINREB: They're on the docket in the Court of
    14
         Appeals.
    15
                  THE COURT: Right. But here?
                  MR. WEINREB: They're not on the docket here. But I
    16
         don't know that the docket in the Court of Appeals isn't part
    17
         of the docket in this case.
    18
    19
                  THE COURT: Okay. All right. So I'll treat that as a
00:28 20
         statement that the record is complete as to that motion and I
    21
         can proceed to decide.
    22
                  MR. WEINREB: Yes. If the Court has any question
         about whether those -- our filings in the Court of Appeals --
    23
    24
                  THE COURT: We can get them from the Court of Appeals'
    25
         docket.
```

```
1
                  MR. WEINREB: Or we could just file a one-page
     2
         opposition and fashion it --
     3
                  THE COURT: I don't think that will be necessary.
                  MS. CLARKE: Your Honor, we also have a challenge to
     4
     5
         the jury panel, the plan and the selection of jurors in the
         district and how it played out and the randomness issue. We
     7
         filed that motion a week ago maybe.
     8
                  THE COURT: I thought that's the one you were just
     9
         talking about.
00:29 10
                  MS. CLARKE: No, we filed a motion to strike the panel
    11
         based on what we've ended up with, and we also filed a
    12
         motion --
    13
                  THE COURT: Oh, I quess I haven't seen that one. When
    14
         was that filed?
    15
                  MR. FICK: The motion to strike the panel was filed
         under seal on Friday. But previously, I'm not sure exactly
    16
         which day of the week it was filed, there was a public motion
    17
    18
         filed under the statute and the jury plan. That's on the
    19
         public docket.
00:29 20
                  THE COURT: That's the one I'm aware of.
                  MR. FICK: There's two separate pending motions.
    21
                  THE COURT: I wasn't aware of the second. I'll find
    22
    23
         it. I was actually asking the government about the first.
                  MR. WEINREB: Oh, I see. Well, with respect to the
    24
    25
         one that was filed under seal on Friday, we haven't had any
```

1 time to respond. That's why we said that we oppose it, but we're not planning on filing a written response unless the 2 Court needs one other than what we just said. 4 With respect to the motion based on the jury plan, we 5 had prepared a written response which we will try to get filed tomorrow. 7 THE COURT: Okay. As soon as possible. Both motions 8 have to be resolved before we swear the jury. 9 MS. PELLEGRINI: Tonight? 00:30 10 MR. WEINREB: Well --11 MS. PELLEGRINI: I can't remember whether theirs was 12 filed under seal. 13 MS. CLARKE: Friday's was under seal and served on you 14 guys. 15 THE COURT: The other one was in the public. MR. WEINREB: If the Court would give us permission, 16 we'll file it electronically tonight. It may not be before six 17 o'clock, which is the normal filing deadline. 18 19 THE COURT: That's all right. 00:30 20 MS. CLARKE: And one final matter with regard to the jury and jury selection in this district, your Honor. We're 21 22 going to file this afternoon our fourth motion for change of venue. It's largely a record preservation and gathering the 23 24 various parts of the record together before this Court but we 25 wanted to give you the heads-up that that will be filed this

afternoon. The Court can always change its mind but we thought 1 that it would be appropriate for the record to get it in. 2 THE COURT: I think the record is rather clear. 3 MS. CLARKE: Well, the record's rather clear that we 4 5 continue to lose the motion but we want to make sure that there is no question of waiver --7 THE COURT: The objection is lodged, but do whatever 8 you have to do. MS. CLARKE: Thank you. 00:31 10 MR. CHAKRAVARTY: Your Honor, one other jury issue 11 just for my clarification. Maybe everybody else is clear on it. But is it going to be the Court's practice after the 12 13 peremptories that both the jury as well as the alternates will 14 be selected by the lowest juror number first, essentially, for each category? So it will be filling -- I just want to make 15 sure that that process --16 THE COURT: Yes. Yes. 17 18 Okay. If that's all on the jury -- Jim, do you have 19 anything yourself? 00:31 20 MR. McALEAR: I do not, your Honor. 21 THE COURT: Okay. Then there are some pending motions 22 that I invite brief argument on. And as I said this morning, these are -- I think these are all perhaps under seal although 23 24 I'm not sure they really need to be, particularly at this stage 25 and certainly not after the jury is actually seated, I don't

00:33 20

00:32 10

think. I mean, I don't think *Daubert* motions generally need to be sealed, for example. We were doing it in aid of the jury selection process so there wasn't a lot of discussion about things that might not ever be in evidence while we were in that sensitive stage, but it's not unusual for -- once the case gets going, for things like that to be in the public record.

So why don't we start -- there are two *Daubert* motions that I think you had indicated you needed to -- or would like to have resolved before the openings. One is related to a DNA matching and the other is related to polymer tapes and fiber matching.

MR. WATKINS: They're both mine, your Honor, so your choice. Which one would you like first?

THE COURT: Either one.

MR. WATKINS: In regard to the gloves, your Honor, these are a pair -- well, they're unmatched golf gloves that were found on the floor of the Honda Civic after the conclusion of the shootout on Laurel and Dexter Street. On the outside of the gloves is the red blood stains -- red-brown stains that turn out to be the blood of MIT Police Officer Sean Collier. That is not at issue. That will not be challenged at trial. The DNA analyst will testify that that is indeed Officer Collier's blood, and we do not intend to challenge that in any way.

The gravamen of the motion is what is found on the

00:35 20

00:34 10

inside of the gloves, and it is different as to different gloves. In the left glove there is DNA of two profiles. The major profile is Tamerlan Tsarnaev, of course Jahar Tsarnaev's older brother. There's a minor profile that is inconclusive as to Jahar Tsarnaev, in our view, that does not come in. There's no possible way to exclude it.

If indeed the Court or the government were going to press it, I believe we would try to call an expert at an Daubert hearing to say that, in fact, he should be excluded as a source, a potential source, of the minor profile on the glove.

As to the right glove, it becomes a little more complicated because there are at least three contributors to the DNA that is on the inside of the glove, and there's no major profile or minor profile. This is a mixture of DNA profiles that is found inside of the glove.

The analyst, shortly after the events at issue, did the DNA on it, concluded that neither Jahar Tsarnaev or Tamerlan Tsarnaev could be excluded; in other words, they could be included as possible donors of the DNA. What she did not do at that point was give any kind of statistical analysis. We believe, and continue to believe, that any kind of DNA conclusion has to be supported by some kind of statistical analysis or it becomes meaningless and, in fact, inadmissible because there's no way for the jury to properly evaluate it

00:36 20

00:36 10

other than to say that they could have been potential contributors; that there's no statistical analysis of how likely they are as opposed to anyone else in the world.

So that is where things stood at the beginning of September and actually into October. As part of our expert disclosure in October, we flagged the issue, and specifically in proffering our expert on DNA, flagged that particular issue, that he would get up there and testify that scientifically it's unsound criminalistics -- it's unsound to put forth a conclusion without any kind of statistical evidence.

The government sat on that, did nothing at that point at all. Daubert motions were set. The deadline set by this Court was at the beginning of December. I believe it was December 5th. Again, we filed a motion to exclude, particularly those conclusions; again, not the fact that there was blood by Officer Collier but what was in the interior of the gloves. And that was based on the fact that it was inadmissible because there was no kind of statistical analysis; therefore, the government at Jahar Tsarnaev's trial could not introduce this as some kind of evidence that was probative of really anything.

In the response, the government came back, having hired a wholly new expert in statistical analysis of DNA results that had been received by the -- by and forwarded to the Massachusetts State Police, in other words, a statistical

00:38 20

00:37 10

analyst did what the Massachusetts State Police did not do.

The difficulty with this is it was now December 22nd. As the Court knows, we were all in full -- running on all cylinders getting ready for trial. We filed a reply motion arguing essentially that it was too late at that point for the government to proffer yet another expert, and a particularly thorny kind of expert in a very high octane field of statistical analysis, and that it was really impossible for us to prepare for that kind of expert at the late date that the government did given that they declined to go forward for the couple of months that they had knowledge that this was going to be an issue there. So that's where we stood at the end of December.

So our argument right now is that it's too late for the government to inject a new expert into this particular issue. And even if it weren't too late, it is a little bit -- under 403 analysis, it's -- it's not something that the Court should do. What the government is really trying to get across here is that there is some kind of link between the Honda Civic and Jahar Tsarnaev and Tamerlan Tsarnaev and Watertown to the shooting of Officer Collier.

They got that. That -- the fact that Officer

Collier's blood is on the gloves that's inside there, there's simply not going to be any kind of challenge. As the Court is going to hear fairly quickly on, there will not be any

00:40 20

00:39 10

challenge that Mr. Tsarnaev, Jahar Tsarnaev, was at the scene and was present at the shooting of Officer Collier.

So once you get to that point where there's not going to be any kind of challenge, all the government really needs to do is match up people on Laurel and Dexter Street in Watertown with the people that were up in -- at the MIT campus when Officer Collier was shot. They've done that. They get that with the unchallenged evidence that we've given them.

It then becomes really confusing and a waste of time and very prejudicial to Mr. Tsarnaev to go beyond that. It becomes confusing because the government is going to -- or the government will put on a statistical expert -- it will be very, very high-level kinds of testimony that is there. If the Court were inclined to do that, we would have to put up a statistical analyst ourselves. There would probably be -- we would contend there would need to be a Daubert hearing as to the statistics before either of them got up there. And at the end of the day it's going to be an exceedingly minor matter that matters not to the government about proving the essential point that they want to prove, which is that these two men here in Watertown were the ones that were at MIT.

And it becomes pretty prejudicial because of the fact that there are both Jahar Tsarnaev's DNA and Tamerlan Tsarnaev's DNA. Not the fact that they are both there, but the fact that their profiles can potentially match what is there.

00:41 20

00:41 10

The jury is very likely to take that in kind of the wrong way, that perhaps they both wore the glove at the time that this happened or that either one of them could and that's some -- that's close enough.

But that's not what the statistics, of course, are going to mean. It just means that either one of them -- there's no ability in this context to do any kind of relative culpability about who actually wore it on one occasion, who wore it more. There's a slight statistical probability that it's more likely that Tamerlan had the glove and it's more likely him that wore it at some point than maybe Jahar Tsarnaev, but even that gets very confusing to the jury. If we get into that kind of fight, the jury is likely to use it in a way that is very impermissible.

So it really does very little to prove anything that's going to be at issue in this case. It's going to become very confusing. At a minimum, we're going to waste a morning trying to go through statistical analysis and teaching the jury some very complicated concepts about how statistical analysis works.

A better course, and I think the only course for the Court given that it was late disclosed and given that it violates 403, is to simply to exclude it at this point. Let the government talk about Sean Collier's blood but no more.

MR. WEINREB: Your Honor, listening to that argument, it didn't sound like much of a *Daubert* argument to me at all.

00:42 20

00:42 10

It's mainly an argument to exclude evidence on grounds of when it was produced and then on 403 grounds. But let me start from the beginning.

So there are two gloves here, a right glove and a left glove, as Mr. Watkins says.

THE COURT: I don't know whether this matters but are they a pair? Are they a matched pair or are they odd gloves?

MR. WEINREB: They are a pair. The only reason that it matters that one is a left glove and one's a right glove is that it enables us to talk about them separately and keep track of which is which.

So I would object to anything being argued about the left glove here. Nothing in his motion — in Mr. Tsarnaev's motion mentions the left glove. If you look at the conclusion of his motion it says, "Based on the foregoing, the defense moves the Court to exclude testimony and evidence that the defendant was a potential contributor to the DNA extracted from the inside of the right glove recovered from the car." And you will search in vain in their motion of any mention of the left glove. That's all new here.

What the defense informed the government in a letter at one point is that if our expert testifies that the defendant cannot be excluded as a contributor of evidence from the left glove, they will want to put on an expert to say that he should have been excluded. But that's not a Daubert challenge; that's

00:44 20

00:43 10

just what they're intending to do in their case, rebuttal evidence, meeting the government's evidence. So I think any reference to the left glove in this argument is a red herring.

Now let's turn to the right glove. So as Mr. Watkins concedes, it had Sean Collier's blood on the outside of it. On the inside of it was DNA matching two individuals. When you find DNA inside -- when you find DNA on something and it comes from only one person, then the statistical analysis is very straightforward. If you find DNA that's a mixture of two people, the DNA analysis becomes more complicated. That's because unless you have a lot of DNA from one person and only a little from another person, it can be difficult to tell just by looking at the -- visually looking at the results of the DNA analysis which profile belongs to one person and which profile belongs to another. If there's roughly equal amounts of DNA from both people, then you have to use statistics, you have to use math to calculate what the likely profiles are.

So the state lab, which is who initially examined the gloves, just like virtually every other lab in the country doesn't do that more complicated analysis. I think they're all on the verge of doing it, but they don't yet. However, there are other companies that do. And it's called -- the method that has been created by one company, Cybergenetics, called the TrueAllele method, which is a way of doing it.

The math is not that complicated once you understand

it. This is a scientifically validated method. It's been validated in any number of studies. It's a well-understood method. It is a -- it's really a method no different from the method used where you just have one person's DNA, it's just a little more complicated.

The defense filed a motion on December 5th saying that -- arguing that there was a need for a *Daubert* challenge because it would be wrong for Jennifer Montgomery, the state's expert, to testify that Jahar Tsarnaev was a potential contributor of DNA to the inside of the glove if she could not give a statistical likelihood of that.

So the government went up and got the statistical likelihood. And two weeks later, which is the time for responding to motions, we filed our opposition. We had already served on the defense the results of the TrueAllele analysis, and we filed our motion saying now we have the statistic, so now there's no more need for a *Daubert* hearing.

I'm not really sure I'm hearing the defense say there is a need for a *Daubert* hearing. I would certainly be willing to have one if they question the statistical method, but the Court need not have one if it's clear that it's a reliable method. And I think if the Court looks at our opposition, it will be satisfied that it is clear that this is a reliable method and there's no need for a *Daubert* hearing.

So really what the defense argument boils down to is

00:45 10

00:46 20

1 that the government's doing this was untimely. But it was done back in December, and they had -- by mid December they had the 2 results. It's now the beginning of March. They've had plenty of time if they want to show these statistical results to their 5 expert. It's not like somebody would need to do experiments to be able to assess this. It's just math. You just have to --7 THE COURT: So let me understand. You're not 8 proposing -- in light of everything that's happened, including your reply, you're not proposing to offer it without the 00:47 10 statistical evidence? 11 MR. WEINREB: No, no, we are proposing -- so now we 12 have --13 THE COURT: That might be a Daubert question? 14 MR. WEINREB: No, I would concede for purposes of this 15 argument that if we didn't have a statistic, it shouldn't come in. But now we have a statistic. 16 The defense's 403 argument, to the extent I understood 17 18 it, which I'm not sure I did, has no merit. The defense argues 19 that there's no -- there's nothing probative about us 00:47 20 demonstrating that Jahar Tsarnaev's DNA was likely inside that glove. I think that -- just to state that argument is to 21 22 refute it. Obviously it's probative that the gloves that have 23 Sean Collier's blood on them on the outside are -- if the defendant's DNA is on the inside --24 25 THE COURT: Well, is there any way of determining when

00:49 20

00:48 10

either any sample of DNA is deposited? It could have been a week before?

MR. WEINREB: That's true. But that's a matter for cross-examination. That's often the case in any case.

THE COURT: No, but doesn't the inability to answer that question reduce significantly the probative value?

MR. WEINREB: Well, it wasn't -- it doesn't make it a -- you know, proof beyond a reasonable doubt but, you know, a brick is not a wall. This is just one piece of evidence. It's an indication that the gloves were worn by the defendant and by the -- by his brother at some point. Maybe they weren't worn that night. That's an easy enough question to ask the expert. Can you say when that DNA got on there? Couldn't it have gotten on there a week earlier? A month earlier? So you don't know that those gloves were worn by either of these individuals that night, do you? No. But, I mean, it's probative the fact that their DNA is inside of them and not somebody -- entirely third person's DNA, for example. These aren't difficult concepts for a jury to understand.

At one point Mr. Watkins said there is a much greater likelihood of Tamerlan Tsarnaev's DNA being in the gloves than Jahar Tsarnaev's. That I think is a misunderstanding on his part of the statistics that are cited here. It's true that the likelihood of selecting from the population at random somebody with the profile that was found in these gloves is -- it's only

00:50 10

00:51 20

45,000 for the Caucasian population for Jahar Tsarnaev and it's 155,000 for Tamerlan Tsarnaev, but that has nothing to do with the likelihood of whose DNA is in the gloves; it just has to do with how common each of their DNA profiles is in the population.

I'd also say that this 403 argument is being made for the first time -- literally the first time right here in this courtroom out of Mr. Watkins' mouth. Nothing has been filed on this. So I could -- it may be that, you know, the government could cite case law to you about DNA, about cases where you can't prove exactly when the DNA got there that would be useful to the Court. I haven't had an opportunity to do that because they never moved to exclude the information on this ground.

This is a *Daubert* motion. This was supposed to be an argument about a *Daubert* hearing, now we're hearing something completely different. This argument could be made, who knows when Officer Collier's blood got on the gloves? Who knows when any DNA gets on anywhere? That's always an issue with DNA.

THE COURT: The only urgency to this is if you wanted to talk about it in your opening.

MR. WEINREB: Yes. So we do want to say that the -- I mean, the murder of Officer Collier is different from the marathon bombings. There is surveillance video of two people walking up to Officer Collier's car and running away, but the video is taken from so far away that you can't see who they

00:52 20

00:52 10

are. And so this is a circumstantial case to some degree when it comes to proving the defendant and his brother guilty of that murder.

The defendant could have -- Tamerlan Tsarnaev could have been there with another person. It doesn't necessarily -- you know, even assuming one of those two people is one of the Tsarnaevs, it doesn't mean the other one was. So we need to prove that they killed him. And we intend to prove it in a few ways. One is that the gun used to kill him is the same gun that was used in the shootout in Watertown. But another very important way, maybe the most important evidence, is that Officer Collier's blood is on this pair of gloves that is found in the car and both brothers' DNA is found in those gloves.

To the extent the defense wants to make the point that that doesn't mean that either one of them in particular, let alone both of them, was wearing the gloves that night, that's easy enough to make during cross-examination. That's easy enough of an argument to make to the jury. But the government has the burden of proof here.

And the defense keeps saying, as they said this morning, everything -- nothing is in dispute. Everything's, you know, pretty much agreed to. So the government -- what they seem to take from that is -- or what they seem to think flows from that is the government doesn't have the right to put in any evidence that the defense thinks, you know, might have,

00:53 20

00:53 10

you know, an extremely strong impact on the jury. But that's not the law.

The jury isn't going to take its job as being just to decide the few things that the defense decides to contest and not the others. They're going to be instructed that we have to prove each and every element of every crime beyond a reasonable doubt. And identity is an element of every crime. We're entitled to our best evidence. This is good evidence. And the defense has not made any kind of compelling argument why we shouldn't be able to use it. And I don't think they should be permitted to make the argument without giving us the slightest notice that it was coming down the pike.

THE COURT: All right.

MR. WATKINS: Just two brief -- very brief points, perhaps. As I understand the government, they would agree that this is inadmissible as to the right glove if indeed the Court rules that they're too late on the statistical analysis and it can't come in. The government often reminds us in pleadings ever more strident strike that deadlines have consequences. This is a case where there was a deadline by the Court. The government knew we were raising this issue. They waited till the eve of trial.

While it is technically true that between December 22nd and now we could have gone into a whole other expert, the Court knows how hard, not just the defense, all of the parties

00:55 20

00:54 10

are working here. It's the wrong time to bring this forward.

As far as the 403 argument, I think Mr. Weinreb forgot about the reply where we did argue from pages 4 to 8 of the defendant's reply exactly the arguments that are made today. To the extent he's saying somehow he's surprised about that, that's simply wrong. We argued 403 in there, we'll continue to argue it.

In regard to the left glove, if the government indeed is trying to put in an inclusive result as to Mr. Tsarnaev, that's a relevance problem. I don't understand how that comes in at all, *Daubert* or beyond. If there's some kind of scientific basis or legal basis for putting in an inconclusive result as to Mr. Tsarnaev, I think we will need a hearing before the government tries to put that kind of evidence in at trial because that's going to be a mistrial when the expert testifies to that and the Court has to strike it.

THE COURT: Why don't you remain standing and address, if you're the one, the polymer motion.

MR. WATKINS: The polymer is somewhat similar but it presents different kinds of issues. I may -- I put this motion under a somewhat broad heading because it encompasses different kinds of evidence, but at the core they are all much the same. What the government seeks to do here is to take detritus from Boylston Street polymers -- caulking, for want of a better word, from -- that was found at the marathon bombing site,

00:57 20

00:56 10

also, pieces of tape, clear tape, gray tape and black tape, and match those in some fashion to the items that were found in the home at 410 Norfolk.

But these are not -- these are not -- unlike DNA, these are not anything you could call a conclusive match. As the government's expert is going to admit, it's what they're calling a Level 3 association; in other words, they can't say for sure that it is this roll or this caulking that was found inside of this -- that was found on Boylston Street, but rather, it matches something that is similar to that or manufactured in some kind of a similar way.

So even on the government's theory taking it in, you know, the light most favorable to it, a Level 3 association tells the jury almost nothing. Unlike the DNA context, there is no statistical analysis that could be done about how likely it is that it is this roll or how likely it is this manufacturing of any of that stuff. There's simply no clear standards by which an analyst can conclude that these two things are similar enough that one can conclude that they're somehow a match.

The only times this -- well, the vast majority of times that the government cites in its brief are when there are much more definite matches, when, for example, the end of a tape in connection with all of the other chemical properties of it can be matched up. Those are the kinds of cases where

00:59 20

00:58 10

courts are inclined to allow this kind of evidence in. But here that's not what they're trying to do; they're simply trying to say it's pretty much like the stuff that was found at 410 Norfolk.

And that is where the main issue is. Even if they were going to be allowed to do that, there are serious questions. And we've gone into it in some detail in the briefs. I don't want to hit every point. But there are still significant questions about whether they can even say that, whether on a scientific basis as to the polymers and to the tapes, that they can say that their tests are conclusive. Even on that level to say it's scientifically or chemically consistent with what was found at 410 Norfolk. And that — that, again, is something that can only be resolved at a Daubert hearing if the Court were inclined to let the government have it in.

But again, much like the DNA issue, the question is what is the probative value. The government is going to put into evidence items that were found at 410 Norfolk Street. They're going to put in rolls of clear tape, rolls of silver tape, rolls of black tape. They are going to put in caulking that they found, a caulking gun.

Again, it's difficult to see that there's going to be any kind of relevance basis to exclude that there, so they're going to get, to the extent that they need it, some kind of

01:00 20

01:00 10

corroboration there. To then add some kind of scientific patina on all of it is simply unwarranted. It's particularly unwarranted where the science does not conclude what it is that the government seeks to argue at the end of the day: that they made this — that these items here were used to build these pressure cooker bombs. It simply does not support that kind of conclusion. There's a grave danger that the jury's going to misuse it as such and conclude that, in fact, those were the rolls that were used to build the bombs.

Given all that, it simply should not come in. It should not be allowed to be used in a very prejudicial way that is not supported by science.

MR. CHAKRAVARTY: Your Honor, again, the issue of Daubert reliability versus 403 or the probative value of the testimony appears to be conflated here. And, in fact, the type of source-specific matching of the polymer evidence has been the only circumstance in which Daubert has really been an issue throughout the case law. And of course, as the government says in its pleadings, source-specific matching was not done in this case.

To the contrary, the analysts reviewed the characteristics of the polymers found, particularly tapes and sealants, both at the Boylston Street detritus, as Mr. Watkins calls it, as well as 410 Norfolk Street, and determined using a series of objective and widely accepted criteria, both in the

01:02 20

01:01 10

industry -- the polymer adhesives' industry as well as in forensic science, in order to determine the class characteristics. And so short -- this is not the circumstance that could be unfairly prejudicial where an analyst says that this particular piece of tape was taken off of this particular roll in the defendant's residence. Instead, that witness is going to say, I have examined this tape. This is -- it's more than just a visual inspection. I've run this series of tests on this tape. These are the tests that are used in the industry and in forensic science in order to determine what the class characteristics are of the tape. And I identified that the class characteristics of the tapes and the polymers that were found in -- at defendant's residence were consistent with those same characteristics.

It does not mean -- the "consistent with" language notwithstanding, it does not mean that the expert is going to say that the tape was from 410 Norfolk Street. That would be something abundantly clear, as Mr. Watkins has already indicated, it's a Level 3 association at best. And what that means is the fact that the tape could not be excluded -- first, it's a natural question by the jurors. You're going to see duct tape found in the street, you're going to see duct tape seized in the residence. They're going to wonder: Is this the same duct tape? The government has the right to say we did an analysis to determine that. We found they are both of the same

01:03 20

01:03 10

class characteristics but we could not make a stronger conclusion than that. It's that kind of candor which demonstrates this is not prejudicial testimony; however, it's another -- as Mr. Weinreb says, it's another brick in the wall.

But it also emphasizes that this goes to the weight of this evidence, not the admissibility. The government is not going to argue simply from that type of correlation, those class characteristics, that this evidence means that the defendant made the pressure cooker bombs; rather, it's going to say that items in the household in which he had resided were consistent with the items — with some of the construction materials of the device itself.

The government has to explain what these devices were to the jury because that's going to be -- it's not just curiosity, it's the very mechanism of the crimes. And so it's important evidence for the jury -- for the government to introduce. It goes to weight, not admissibility, and there's no prejudice coming from the fact that tape is tape. That's essentially what the witness is going to be saying. And they're going to say of the varieties of tape, some of the samples are consistent with some of the samples that were found on the street.

A final point: The government has -- you know, this testimony, if it's going to come in, it's going to come in weeks into trial. To the extent that the testimony is

01:05 20

01:04 10

necessary, given what the lay of the land is at the time that the witnesses are expected to testify, it's possible that the government doesn't even elicit the evidence. But to say under <code>Daubert</code> grounds or 403 grounds that testimony about actual physical evidence found at the scene that is consistent with and could give rise to an inference that people in Norfolk Street constructed the devices I think is an important one that the government should be allowed to make.

THE COURT: All right. This motion is denied for the simple reason that the government, as I hear it, doesn't propose to offer the possible testimony that might implicate a Daubert question. The "consistent with" is different from the source specific, and I think the "consistent with" is really -- I think it's really a relevance issue and not a Daubert issue at all. So anyway, that motion is denied.

MR. WATKINS: Just for the record, I raised Daubert issues there that, in fact, there are no standards by which even a Level 3 association could be made that there are not -- that that's not a scientifically supportable ground. So I think at a minimum, even if the Court under 403 purposes is going to allow it, you would still need to have a hearing in order to admit it at trial.

THE COURT: I don't think so.

Now, let's talk about foreign witnesses. Let's start with the deposition issue, defendant's motion for foreign

deposition.

01:06 20

01:06 10

MR. FICK: Yes, your Honor. So this is the request that -- to authorize the deposition and to order the government to take steps to make the witness available, among them Magomed Kartashov, who is a maternal cousin, probably is the best source of evidence about Tamerlan Tsarnaev's radicalization, his state of mind and what he was interested in and obsessed with at the time that he traveled to Russia in 2012.

Mr. Kartashov is not available to come to testify here because he's in jail in Russia. The government, however, procured his presence for an interview with the FBI on a prior occasion by a request of the Russian government. So in that sense, the government has the ability to at least solicit his presence. And we'd request that they do that again for purposes of a deposition, or at this point given the time, alternatively, if arrangements for a video connection were possible, of course that would be an alternative means of procuring his testimony.

The essential argument the government makes in response is, Well, the Court can't order the government to exercise the government's prerogatives under our Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty. First, it's not entirely clear the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty effected the means by which way they procured his presence for the FBI in the first instance, and really, the cases that -- we have reached this conclusion

01:08 20

01:07 10

previously simply to say that the Legal Assistance Treaty itself does not create a right for other parties to act, but that sort of conflates the means with the right. The defendant is arguing here that the right in here is in the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution, and the Legal Assistance Treaty is simply means by which the government not only can but has procured access to the witness.

The most relevant First Circuit case which I think actually, given the way the timing of this unfolded, was cited in connection with a different motion, not this one, but the case is Filippi, 918 F.2d. 244. That case held that the failure of the government to assist in obtaining parole for foreign witnesses through executive means was a Sixth Amendment violation, and I think by analogy that tells the Court that there is a basis to say to the extent the government has de facto access to a witness, it should be required at least to make efforts to exercise that ability of access. And so that essentially is the basis of the motion.

Now, the government also in its response says, Well, there's other evidence of Tamerlan Tsarnaev's radicalization. There are, for example, voice recordings of Mr. Tsarnaev on his computer, et cetera. That of course is wonderful. If the government is willing to stipulate that Tamerlan Tsarnaev's voice is, in fact, Tamerlan Tsarnaev's voice, that would be helpful. But again, the government has made this argument over

1 and over again, the parties ought to be able to put their best evidence in, and the best evidence of Tamerlan Tsarnaev's 2 radicalization is testimony that Magomed Kartashov could provide. 5 THE COURT: Do you have any current information about 6 it? 7 MR. FICK: As far as we know, he is still serving his sentence in the -- sort of a prison colony. It's not really a 8 facility; it's more like a little town where prisoners live 01:09 10 with their families in Voronezhskaya Oblast, which is in the 11 European part of Russia, you know, a couple of hours south of 12 Moscow. 13 My understanding is that when he was interviewed by 14 the government previously, he was -- I know, I can spell that 15 for the court reporter. 16 (Laughter.) MR. FICK: But my understanding is when the government 17 interviewed him previously, he was brought out of that -- out 18 19 of wherever he was detained to an office setting where that 01:09 20 meeting took place. THE COURT: And so what specifically would you suggest 21 22 if it's not the MLAT Treaty that the government might do? 23 MR. FICK: Well, I'm not privy to what mechanisms, 24 either formal or informal, that the government may have to 25 solicit cooperation from Russia in a law enforcement effort.

01:10 20

01:10 10

You know, if there's something other than the MLAT Treaty, something less formal that they used before, presumably they can use it again.

And I'd also note, going back to the agreement that I cited, you know, the case law about the MLAT Treaty simply says there's no right of action for the third party under the MLAT Treaty, but again, they're saying the right of action is the Constitution. The MLAT Treaty is the mechanism the government has in its hands much like the parole process to bring witnesses in. That was at issue in Filippi.

MR. CHAKRAVARTY: Your Honor, I inquired with the FBI as to what other options there might be aside from an MLAT, and they inquired with the foreign government, and they said that -- and this is months ago now -- that there will be no cooperation with any request, whether it be from the FBI or from the U.S. government at large, without a request from -- through the Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty. So whatever vehicle was used back in the summer of 2013 is not even a possibility even if we wanted it to be a possibility which -- but that's jumping ahead a little bit.

Because in assessing this request for a deposition, or even Mr. Kartashov as a witness, we first have to address the threshold issue of what is the relevance of the witness. And at best, unless, you know, there's information that the defense has that we don't and that we haven't provided to them, he

01:12 20

01:11 10

offers testimony about Tamerlan Tsarnaev before the conspiracy charged in the case had even begun, what Tamerlan Tsarnaev did in 2012 before the plot that was -- that resulted in the bombing of the marathon.

And it's an important distinction because everything that flows from the defense request, talking about how critical of a witness he is, suggests that to the extent that he has any value in a mitigation case, it would come to not talking about the defendant's individualized liability, or even his relative culpability versus his brother's, but rather, simply character evidence or the evolution of Tamerlan Tsarnaev's own thoughts.

So that prevents fundamentally them from being able to meet the extraordinary threshold of -- required by Rule 17 saved for extraordinary cases, especially when witnesses reside in a foreign country where the penalties of perjury and the other accoutrements surrounding reliability of testimony aren't going to be in place, that they have a burden to meet.

And I suggest that they haven't met that burden. They haven't proffered a 401 reason or the analog in it for -- in a death penalty sentencing phase as to why his testimony is necessary. Having not met that burden, they then can't further justify this extraordinary step.

The case law is clear that even though this -- this unique circumstance has not been squarely addressed by the First Circuit or by the Supreme Court, those cases that have

01:14 20

01:13 10

reviewed the ability for individuals to access the right of an MLAT have routinely been denied that access, and that's for good reason. The MLAT is designed for state-to-state interactions and cannot be co-opted by the interest of a few even when weighed against the Fifth and Sixth Amendment rights that a criminal defendant is afforded.

The defense also appears, I should add, in their papers -- and based on Mr. Fick's knowledge of the situation -- has more and closer access to being able to even talk to Mr. Kartashov than the government does. If he is in a facility run by the federal government in Russia, then not only can we -- are we unable to even ascertain that definitively from the government, but we certainly don't have access to communicate with him.

He hasn't indicated that he would be willing to go through this procedure, and what we're talking about is essentially a detour from focusing on the case, a pragmatic problem of both expense as well as having to go over to Russia to try to attempt to knock on a door and say, Hey, we want to talk to one of your prisoners for a little while, and then hopefully getting some kind of reliable testimony that this jury is going to be able to assess within the context of everything else in the mitigation case, your Honor.

It's just -- not only have they not met the legal threshold, it just doesn't make sense pragmatically. And so

the government would ask that the motion be denied.

01:15 20

01:14 10

MR. FICK: Very briefly, your Honor, I'm frankly sort of dumbfounded to hear the government try to suggest

Mr. Kartashov would not be relevant not only for the mitigation case, but given the way the government has described the way it's going to frame the motive in the guilt phase of the case, frankly, the testimony could be relevant there. The government essentially has said -- indicated to us that it's going to argue that Jahar Tsarnaev was self-radicalized, whatever that means.

Our answer to that, our belief and the truth of the matter is that, no, that is not the case, that Tamerlan Tsarnaev radicalized his brother and his path to radicalization started much earlier and was much more intense including a trip to the Caucasus for the specific purpose of joining the insurgence. Magomed Kartashov is the living person who can provide the best and strongest corroboration of that evidence, and so for that reason we think his testimony is critically important.

THE COURT: Okay. I'll reserve it.

Then there's the motion to delay the identification of -- or the disclosure of foreign witnesses.

MR. FICK: Yes. And the original relief sought there was to delay to either seven days before the beginning of the mitigation case -- or before the guilt phase or until such time

01:16 20

01:16 10

as the witnesses are on an airplane headed to the United States, and we maintain that request at this time. Or alternatively, I think this is also sought in the motion, a protective order that would bar the government from making efforts through a foreign government to interview the witness overseas given the intimidating circumstances in which that can sometimes happen.

I think that the potential for witnesses to be -- who were reluctant to come in the first place is beyond question, and, you know, for the same types of reasons that this kind of relief was allowed in the Rwanda case, I think it should be permitted here as well.

And then a separate piece of the motion, quite apart from the question of when a disclosure or foreign witness identity is made to the government, separately there was a request that a firewall, essentially an Immigration and Customs agent, be designated to work with the defense. I need witnesses who may need to be paroled into the country as opposed to simply receiving ordinary U.S. visitor visas. And for similar reasons, simply so the government -- the prosecution team is not sort of neck deep in the defense's business, they assume the requirement that they designate an agent in this case would also be appropriate.

MR. CHAKRAVARTY: Your Honor, the reason the Court set a disclosure deadline for witnesses is so the parties wouldn't

01:18 20

01:17 10

be surprised. We're on the eve of trial. The time has come when we need to know who the witnesses are and what the theory of the case is against which we are going to be presenting evidence. We need to know what questions to ask the witnesses when they're on the stand, we need to know both for the liability phase as well as the penalty phase.

The sole justification for the defense's extraordinary request is that they -- the witnesses that they propose are likely to be intimidated. And while intimidation could happen in a variety of circumstances, there's absolutely zero evidence, at least that the government is aware of, I don't know what may have been filed with the Court, to suggest that that kind of intimidation that they're envisioning, number one, has or will happen; but number two, that it will happen because of disclosure to the government. And what I mean by that is that the foreign government from whence these witnesses are coming are likely to know, regardless of any U.S. government involvement, of the purpose and the nature of why these people are coming to the United States, especially if some kind of extraordinary permissions are granted for purposes of coming to the United States.

The example that they use and is the sole precedential -- I guess it's not even precedential, but the sole example of such extraordinary steps having been taken were in the Rwanda cases. The Rwanda cases -- the case in New

Hampshire as well as in Massachusetts -- involved witnesses for both the sides coming over from Rwanda, from a small village in this sub-Saharan country which is considerably different demographically in terms of sophistication from Russia or the Caucasus, Kyrgyzstan and these other places -- and it was a shared witness pool. And the concern the defense had at that point, given a regime that they believed would intimidate their witnesses and in support of that belief they advanced as the primary theory of their defense that the Rwandan government was going to be manipulating these witnesses.

And there was a particular narrative that they wanted to further, and they presented expert testimony in that regard, when it was a core -- at the core of their defense the simple solution that the judge saw in New Hampshire in this case was to say, Well, why do you have to designate? Why don't you just give a list of witnesses to get their travel documents in order and then wall off the prosecutors from knowing who those witnesses are until they hit American soil?

That procedure failed miserably. The witnesses were able to come without a problem but many of them didn't testify at all -- I'm speaking of defense witnesses -- and those that did perjured themselves. And the whole point of knowing who the witnesses are is so that we can learn more about them and we can learn -- we can prepare for them on cross-examination.

The Rwandan cases involved illiterate farmers. We

01:19 10

01:20 20

01:21 20

01:21 10

have no idea who is coming over from -- in this case, we have no idea for the purposes for which they're coming over, and we're at a considerable disadvantage from not knowing even that. It's one thing to know who a witness is, it's another thing to go out and to try to interview a witness. And it's a third thing to realize the harm which they are considering, which is to contact a foreign government, tell them the nature of the witness, and ask them -- or give them certain facts that would then enable them -- or incentivize them to actually intimidate the witness to come here. And I could tell you right now the government has no intention to do that.

And so it's that worst-case scenario for which the defense has proposed this most restrictive means. And while two months ago that may have been appropriate before we were able -- before we were right engaged in the case and, frankly, we would not have done very much in the last two months, we would have asked the FBI to look into that more, but that's a different question from now when we actually have to present the case and don't know who these witnesses are.

The -- another point about the -- how this procedure would not only prejudice the government but would encourage bad evidence coming in, in the Rwanda cases, the witnesses all testified about a very narrow piece of history in a small village for which the government had thoroughly investigated, and so we had some context as to in what circumstances their

01:23 20

01:22 10

testimony might be false and what circumstances we might be able to present contradictory evidence.

In this case we don't have that. In this case we have somebody who can come up and say anything they want about the defendant or his family's history, presumably, without the government having any basis to be able to even conduct an investigation to be able to cross-examine. And if they -- to do it -- if they testify themselves, then at least we get a right to cross-examination. But if they just come here to speak with the defense mitigation experts, and then through hearsay the mitigation experts present that testimony, we are at an even further disadvantage.

At the very least, your Honor, we need to know who these people are so we can prepare for their case -- the testimony that's going to arise from them in the case both in the liability phase so that we can anticipate it as well -- and we don't overreach and argue something that we know that they're going to have witnesses on who are going to be eyewitnesses to some event that we're aware of, as well as, most importantly, in the mitigation phase. And given the fact that we're all going to be fully engaged in trial, we ask for that to be done now.

MR. FICK: Very briefly. I think there's a difference between -- what we were doing is we're calling the mitigation witnesses to talk about family history. It's very different

01:24 20

01:23 10

from talking about contentious historical facts about the Rwandan genocide. That aside, the risk and the potential of witnesses being afraid and sort of not wanting to come is very real and is palpable.

At the beginning of this case, shortly after the marathon bombings, the FBI went over to Russia, and with the help of a Federal Security Service in Russia -- this is the successor agency to the KGB -- people were summoned to essentially meet at the FSS -- or KGB -- headquarters to do an interview. Over the course of the last 18 months we have made trip after trip, spent hours and hours with these people helping to put them at ease, trying to convince them that it's safe for them to come to the United States, they're unlikely to be harassed further. And to suggest that it would not be intimidating for these same people to get summoned by the Federal Security Service again just before they're about to come here to testify, it's fundamentally unhistorical and preposterous.

So at a minimum, again, I think even if the defense has to give over the names at some point sooner than -- shortly before the beginning of the penalty phase, there ought to be a protective order to prevent the government from communicating the information about their identity or seeking to do anything with regard to interviews abroad.

It's not my purpose here to sort of impugn the

01:25 20

01:25 10

government or legal system of Russia, but, you know, these are sensitive matters, and for that reason we filed these motions under seal and we would request that they stay under seal because I suspect I, and certainly other members of the defense team are going to continue to have to travel to these places during the course of the trial, and certainly all this discussion being public would not be helpful in that regard.

THE COURT: But isn't it the case that some authorities in Russia are necessarily aware of the witnesses because of visa applications and other exit visas and so on?

MR. FICK: There's no requirement for an exit visa from Russia anymore for the last couple of decades. People apply for a foreign travel passport, which is a standard thing, through a local administrative office. And then the travel documents that are necessary are travel documents -- are U.S. travel documents, either a visa from the United States Embassy or a parole letter from Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

You know, while this case has certain political sensitivity in Russia, particularly when attention is drawn to it either by the presence of law enforcement or the defense in various places -- on the other hand, simply the travel of people in and out of the country is not something that's necessarily going to attract that level of attention. There's no reason to think that a request by the FBI to interview somebody is going to be treated the same as someone who is

2

3

5

7

8

9

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

21

22

23

24

25

01:27 20

01:26 10

simply getting a passport or getting a travel document to come to the United States. There may be an inference about why the person is coming or something, but the sort of pointed request of U.S. law enforcement to go talk to those people, there's no reason to think that something like that should happen and they would be intimidated. It's really a very different kind of thing.

MR. CHAKRAVARTY: Your Honor, there's one point I didn't raise -- well, I didn't respond to, which is the issue of the parole. The government's, obviously, argument was about the fact we need to know the witnesses, but we also lay out in our opposition that some of these witnesses may need government permission to come in outside of the, you know, green card, citizenship or visa process. Those processes are incumbent upon themselves -- on the witnesses, or with the assistance of the defense team to go through the regular procedures in order to obtain those. But some of these witnesses may not be eligible, and we explained, as occurred in the Rwanda cases, and the Defender's office knows, that the process to apply for administrative parole is a very different process and requires a lot more lead time. And there is -- because administrative parole is permission for a very limited, narrow purpose in order to come to the United States, there are often -- or there is a security plan that has to be proposed in place at the time that one of these people comes in.

01:28 20

01:28 10

In some cases that security plan could mean incarceration, as occurred in some of the -- in the instance of some of the Rwandans, in some cases that could mean an electronic bracelet, and others it could mean there has to be 24-hour surveillance or some other kind of a very resource-intensive security procedures which the investigative agency responsible for the case has to do.

In this case the FBI is that investigative agency. So procedurally, and I don't know how many, if any, of the witnesses — proposed witnesses would have to go through that procedure, but their names, some information about their background, both for vetting for security clearance purposes but more importantly for — to ensure that there is an adequate security plan. I mean, if these are known terrorists from Russia — I'm not proposing that they are, but if they were — the security plan would be a much different one, much more restrictive, than there would be if they were permitted to come at all, it would be very different if it's a family member who doesn't pose that kind of a physical risk.

But in addition to the physical risk assessment and requirements, then there are also waivers and other procedures that have to be in place so that these people won't come to the United States and claim asylum or some other relief from persecution, for example, or other events.

All of that takes a lot of time and requires more than

2

3

4

5

7

9

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

21

22

23

24

25

01:30 20

01:29 10

inst the investigative agency, the FBI. They, once they have an adequate security plan, then have to petition to the Department of Homeland Security, which hopefully on Friday will still be operating, so then Homeland Security has to both approve that plan and then issue the appropriate paperwork. That paperwork then goes over. And that's notwithstanding whether there's any watch list or anything else that might be preventing them from travel. So that's an elaborate process.

I explain that all for your Honor's benefit but also to make the record that the government has made known to the defense that they need to provide that information to the FBI -- and we gave them the names and numbers of the FBI personnel who happened to be the supervisors of the case -- and we haven't received any information. And the inability for those people to travel is not the responsibility of the government if the defense has, in the interest of protecting the secrecy of their witnesses, has chosen strategically not to provide that information. If they plan to do it now, then they have to recognize that the FBI will do what they can to try to process that paperwork, and we will as well. And we'll crack the whip as much as we can. But given the passage of time, and I don't know when these witnesses would be expected to testify, but it could very well be that they may not be here on time. And that burden cannot fall on the government when we've made it clear to the defense as to what the process is and they just

simply haven't availed it.

01:31 20

01:30 10

I just finally conclude just as a caveat that I don't know how many, if any, of the proposed witnesses will fall into this category, but to the extent that any do, those are the witnesses who both have to file -- they have to provide information for -- to the government, and those are the witnesses who, in the New Hampshire case, were walled off from a so-called taint ICE agent. That could not be the process here because there are two different investigative agencies involved, and each of them would have to have their own filter procedures. But for the reasons I said earlier, at this point there's no more need for that wall. We need to know who they are.

MR. FICK: Very quickly, I think Mr. Chakravarty conflated a couple of different issues here. Bottom line: Immigration and Customs Enforcement controls the border. Any issues that Mr. Chakravarty has talked about are precisely the kind of thing that a fire-walled ICE agent could handle in the first instance, and then bring to the attention of the investigative agency or the Court if necessary.

While there certainly is the possibility that the FBI could be the requesting party to immigration, to bring somebody into the country, that is certainly not the exclusive mechanism. As Ms. Conrad utilized in the Almohandis Saudi firecracker case, for lack of a better description, the Court

also has the ability to request public interest parole to immigration directly. The bottom line is whatever issues may arise to be vetted by a fire-walled agent in the first instance will protect all parties' rights and make the process more efficient.

THE COURT: I'll reserve it.

01:32 20

01:32 10

I think that's my list. Anybody else have anything?

MR. MELLIN: Your Honor, one issue that came up today,
we had brought up a few of the victim witnesses to consider the
layout of the courtroom, and there are really two issues that
came up. The first is that a few of the victims are very
concerned by the presence of the defendant so close to them and
the proximity of the defendant to them while they're
testifying.

As the Court knows, as we look at the court right now, the witness stand is probably five to eight to maybe ten feet from where the defendant will be sitting. When the witnesses walk in, they will be probably four to five feet from the defendant. They were very concerned about their safety, their security, and also, the fact that they are understandably very sensitive to the fact that the defendant will be right next to them while they're testifying.

So I don't know if there's something that can be done to try to either relocate the defendant or relocate those witnesses so that they are able to give their testimony without

01:33 10

01:34 20

the defendant being literally just beyond their arms' reach.

THE COURT: Well, I don't think so, is the short answer. There's a lot of different competing considerations to how we set up, and I think it -- I understand what you're saying. I just don't think there's any -- I'll give it some thought, I guess, but my initial reaction is it's unavoidable. He's going to be present in the room someplace with them. I don't know that the number of feet is itself a determinant, but...

MR. MELLIN: Your Honor, I appreciate that he has to be present, it's just that in this layout, he is incredibly close, and that's just something that -- you know, I don't know if you could move the defendant and have him sit where

Mr. Bruck is sitting. I'm not sure if the marshals would be okay with that. But we would suggest that there be some change in the way in which this courtroom is currently set up for these witnesses. Because I can tell you, they were very much intimidated by -- and fearful of walking into this courtroom with that defendant being so close to them.

The other issue is one of the witnesses is in a wheelchair, and I'm not sure how the Court wishes to address that. I'll raise that and just leave it to the Court to decide that.

THE COURT: Well, we've had that before. We can make an accommodation for that including, perhaps, maybe an entry

```
1
         from another doorway so it's a smoother passage through, for
         example. I know I've had a juror who was in a wheelchair and
     2
         we accommodated that. I don't remember the -- we've had -- I
     3
         think they just sit in front of the witness box.
                  MR. MELLIN: And that, again, put them that much
     5
     6
         closer --
     7
                  THE COURT: In the past we've been able to do a ramp
         up to the -- I think to the box itself. I know we did that in
     8
         the jury box. We ramped up so the person could sit in with the
01:34 10
         others. I'm not sure how much would be involved in trying to
    11
         do that here but --
    12
                  MR. MELLIN: Again, your Honor --
    13
                  THE COURT: -- as the time approaches we could --
    14
                  MR. MELLIN: -- the problem with having the wheelchair
    15
         in front of the witness box is that once again the witness is
         now even closer --
    16
                  THE COURT: Actually, it could even be farther away.
    17
         It could be at the corner of the box.
    18
    19
                  MR. MELLIN: And then the other concern we have, your
01:35 20
         Honor, the witnesses, while they're waiting in the witness
    21
         room, as I understand it will be all the way around and down
    22
         the hall. So there may be a point in time where it's going to
         take a few minutes for a few of these witnesses to actually
    23
         make it from the witness room into the courtroom.
    24
    25
                  I'm not sure if there's something we can do to
```

accommodate that.

01:36 20

01:36 10

THE COURT: We can think about that.

MS. CONRAD: Your Honor, there was one matter the Court did not address. It was, I think, contained in our status report. It was an evidentiary issue. One of the first 20 witnesses was an officer -- or is expected to be, unless there's been a change, Officer Lauren Woods, who attempted -- who was, I think, in the ambulance with Lingzi Lu, one of the deceased victims in this case.

And based on the discovery that we've received,

Officer Woods valiantly tried to resuscitate and save Lingzi Lu
as what appears to be after the point at which she was dead.

And she describes her throwing up, which seems like it was
probably an involuntary response after she was already dead.

I don't know how much the government intends to go into this. Obviously, the fact that she was present with her and the fact that she's going to testify is one thing, but the question of how much detail she's going to go into starts to sound like really just 403 in terms of its potential impact on the jury and not being really probative with respect to any issues in this case. I mean, there's no question that she's deceased.

THE COURT: Let me just -- this is slightly different from my looking at autopsy pictures or video and so on and so forth because I can't -- I don't know what her testimony will

01:38 20

01:37 10

be in its fullness. So I guess that will be the question.

MS. PELLEGRINI: First, she wasn't in the ambulance. The officer responded to the scene at the Forum on Boylston Street, and being a police officer, she has some emergency response training -- received medical training, and she did assist with trying to do chest compressions and intubate Lingzi Lu.

Ms. Conrad -- as I understand it, the information is that the vomiting which Officer Woods cleared from her is not an involuntary action. And in any event, her testimony would be that she was making eye contact with Lingzi Lu, who followed her facial movements and who followed her eyes. So she was not dead at that time.

It's the government's responsibility again to prove that these victims were killed by a bomb set by the defendant, and we believe strongly that this evidence goes exactly to that, that the evidence prior to Officer Woods getting upon the scene was that Lingzi Lu was walking down the street herself, the bomb went off, and Officer Woods responded to the scene. There she was, on there, still alive. There was also another witness whose testimony, at least the 302 has been provided to the defense, that she had a pulse, it was thready but it was still there, and that the chest compressions were continuing while she was alive. Whether or not they continued after she had expired is, frankly, of no consequence with respect to the

```
1
         immediacy of Officer Woods' response to Lingzi Lu at that
     2
         scene.
     3
                  THE COURT: Well, in terms of judging whether the
         testimony is too much or not, is there some summary that I
     4
     5
         could look at, whether it's a 302 or other report like that,
         that would give me some idea of what her testimony would be?
     7
                  MS. PELLEGRINI: Yes, your Honor. I have Officer
         Woods BPD called an F26. And I can hand it up to the Court.
     8
     9
                  THE COURT: And that gives us an idea of what her oral
         testimony would be?
01:39 10
    11
                  MS. PELLEGRINI: Yes. And I just want to be sure I
    12
         have pulled the various -- yes.
    13
                  THE COURT: Okay.
    14
                  MR. WATKINS: Could we put a Bates number of that
    15
         document in just so we're clear?
                  MS. PELLEGRINI: I don't remember it off the top of my
    16
         head.
    17
    18
                  MR. WATKINS: Perhaps the date of it, maybe?
    19
                  THE COURT: Well, it's a two-page memo from Officer
01:39 20
         Woods to Captain Ivens, I-V-E-N-S, dated 4/23/2013.
    21
                  MR. WATKINS: Thank you, your Honor.
    22
                  THE COURT: It doesn't have Bates numbers on it.
    23
                  MS. CONRAD: Your Honor, just on that issue,
    24
         perhaps -- I mean, I realize it's difficult for the Court to
    25
         determine the exact parameters of the testimony. What we're
```

01:41 20

01:40 10

concerned about, obviously, is the extent to which this becomes inflammatory.

I mean, the testimony, the evidence is going to be very graphic and very disturbing, and we get that. And we get that some of it comes with the territory. The question is:

Where do you draw the line? And this might be an instance in which a very brief voir dire out of the presence of the jury would help the Court to tailor it without us having to object during the course of what I'm sure will be emotional testimony.

THE COURT: All right. Okay.

MR. WEINREB: Your Honor, I have one very minor request, and that is assuming I can get my hands on one, just for purposes of the opening statements, I can substitute a different podium from this one? I'm having trouble with my back that makes it painful to stand for long periods of time unless I can elevate one of my legs, and the other kind of podium, the one that's sort of more solid, has a shelf on the bottom and it makes it perfect to sort of -- so we would bring it in, we would take it out afterwards.

MS. CLARKE: No objection.

THE COURT: That sounds fine as long as both sides get to use it.

(Laughter.)

MR. WEINREB: By all means.

MS. CLARKE: As long as both sides don't have to share

1 the backache. May I just have one moment? 2 (Counsel confer off the record.) 3 MS. CLARKE: Your Honor, there is an evidentiary issue 4 5 but apparently not before opening statement, and that is a timeline that the government intends to introduce. There have 7 been discussions between Mr. Watkins and Ms. Pellegrini that have apparently not proven as fruitful as we'd hoped. 8 THE COURT: Is this a chalk? 01:42 10 MS. CONRAD: That's one of the issues. 11 MS. CLARKE: I think that's one of the questions. MR. WEINREB: Well, the government intends to offer it 12 13 as evidence. Basically we call it a timeline, but unless I'm 14 mistaken, what it is is a -- it's a series of excerpts from 15 surveillance videos on Boylston Street that have been arranged so that they track the progress of the defendant and his 16 brother as they walk down Boylston Street to the points where 17 18 they put the bombs. So it's essentially a -- I mean, we could 19 put in each of the surveillance videos and then just cue them 01:43 20 up from the points we wanted to publish them to the jury and play them one after another, and this just essentially makes it 21 22 easier by putting them together. 23 Now, there are, in addition, the little segments of 24 video that we're going to play are separated by, you know, like 25 a graphic that says what the place is, like the Forum

restaurant, but there's nothing more than that.

01:43 10

01:44 20

So it would be an exhibit just like any other surveillance video would come into evidence as an exhibit. And frankly, I don't even know what the objection could be. I mean, they could all be played individually one after another, so having a single exhibit that combines them all just streamlines the process of presenting it to the jury and makes it more probative, frankly, because it's easier to follow what's going on.

THE COURT: So is the only fight over whether it goes into the jury room at the end of the case?

MR. WATKINS: If I may, Mr. Weinreb is talking about a different issue and a different problem. There is a compilation video that has a different kind of problem to it in addition to whether it's a chalk or an exhibit. There are also these interactive — what are called interactive Adobe flash exhibits. There are actually two of them. One of them has all kinds of different evidence encapsulated within it. And that's where the real question is going to be.

We're all going to get confused if we try to argue it here without actually seeing them in front of us. If the Court wanted to address this tomorrow, again, given that -- the present work, it didn't seem like it was going to come in during the first couple of days of trial or in opening. We could try to do it tomorrow, if there's a rush to do that, as

01:46 20

01:45 10

at the opening.

long as perhaps if we had Friday available, for example, to hash this out. That might be better-served time.

I understand them to have said that it's not coming in

THE COURT: If that's the case, then we could try to find a --

MR. WEINREB: So, your Honor, neither one of them -- I mean, they're exhibits. They're not going to be implicated by the opening statements, which is just talk. But --

THE COURT: Well, that's a good question, by the way whether either of you are going to use anything other than talk in your opening statements.

MR. WEINREB: Yes. So I've already previewed for the defense, the only things we intend to show the jury during opening statement, with the Court's permission, would be pictures of the four decedents in the case taken before they were injured, just the faces of them, so that the jury sees who the individuals are. And we also plan to -- I plan to read to the jury a portion of the note that he left in the boat. And there will be a typed version of what I read just so the jury can follow along. It won't be the actual note itself.

So -- by the way, though, although those exhibits won't be implicated by the opening, they will come in pretty quickly after we get going.

THE COURT: This week?

```
1
                  MR. WEINREB: Possibly.
     2
                  MS. PELLEGRINI: I'm sorry. Excuse me.
     3
                   (Counsel confer off the record.)
                  MR. WEINREB: Perhaps not till Monday, but soon.
     4
         Within the first --
     5
                  THE COURT: If it's not till Monday, we could probably
     7
         find some time on Friday to do it. I think there may be more
         pressing things tomorrow.
                  MR. WEINREB: Not until Monday, your Honor.
01:46 10
                  THE COURT: Okay. All right. Thank you very much.
    11
         Thank you.
                  THE CLERK: All rise for the Court.
    12
    13
                   (The Court exits the courtroom at 4:17 p.m.)
    14
                  THE CLERK: The Court will be in recess.
    15
                   (The proceedings adjourned at 4:17 p.m.)
    16
    17
    18
    19
    20
    21
    22
    23
    24
    25
```

CERTIFICATE I, Marcia G. Patrisso, RMR, CRR, Official Reporter of the United States District Court, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript constitutes, to the best of my skill and ability, a true and accurate transcription of my stenotype notes taken in the matter of Criminal Action No. 13-10200-GAO, United States of America v. Dzhokhar A. Tsarnaev. /s/ Marcia G. Patrisso MARCIA G. PATRISSO, RMR, CRR Official Court Reporter Date: 9/8/15